ARCANA [VOLUME.04] VAMPIRE 吸血鬼

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やさしい温度
A GENTLE TEMPERATURE
BY KISARAGI YOSHINORI
如月芳規
I've already told her this month's allowance has been completely used up!
THERE'S NO DINNER OR ANYONE AROUND...
...
IT'S NO GOOD... TOO PAINFUL. I'M GOING TO DIE...
MIKI-CHAN,
LET'S HAVE DINNER.
COME.
..YOU
..

I'M GLAD YOU CAME.
NO, IT'S LONELY WHEN YOU EAT BY YOURSELF.
THEN IF YOU COULD COOK, YOU WOULDN'T NEED ME?
IT'S GREAT TO HAVE A NEIGHBOUR WHO CAN COOK!
YOU SAVED ME!
I CAN'T HELP BUT BE DRAWN IN
WHEN I SEE A STRONG PERSON LIKE YOU FEELING SO DOWN,
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I LIVE CLOSE BY,
YOU'VE CHEERED UP..
IS THAT STRANGE?
BUT EATING LASAGNA IN THIS HOT WEATHER..
IT'S MADE AND EVERYTHING.

ONLY GIRLS EAT FOOD THAT COOLS THE BODY,
YOU'D EAT SOMETHING COLD OR SOMETHING LIKE CURRY
AT TIMES LIKE THIS,
YEAH.
IT TASTES GOOD, RIGHT?
OH, REALLY
I DON'T LIKE SPICY FOOD.
AND
SORT OF

YOUR PARENTS ARE
IT'S ALREADY PAST NINE...
-QUITE LATE, AREN'T THEY?
THEY'VE GONE TO A RESTAURANT OVER AN HOUR AWAY,
IT'S THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!
HOW?
REALLY? I THINK IT'S QUITE NICE.
AND LEFT THEIR ONLY DAUGHTER ALONE, WHO RETURNS HOME LATE FROM CRAM SCHOOL...
IT'S STUPID.
WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I MEET SOMEONE DANGEROUS AT THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT?
ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT?

You did!
DID I SAY SOMETHING STRANGE?
IT'S NANASE. DID YOU FORGET?
UM, WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?
SO HOW DO YOU PLAN TO TAKE THEM ON?
YOU'RE EVEN MORE FRAIL THAN ME,
YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE EATING BECAUSE IT'S HOT.
THAT'S SUMMER FATIGUE!
YEAH, I HAVE NO APPETITE.
HUH? ARE YOU NOT GOING TO EAT?
JUST THAT?
OH...

WHAT'S THE MATTER?
MAYBE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO EAT SOME JELLY OR SOMETHING
WHY ARE HUMANS LIKE THIS,
PREFERRING TO EAT COLD FOOD?
ANIMALS THAT EAT FLESH AND BLOOD,
EAT THEIR PREY
THAT ARE AT BODY TEMPERATURE
NO...
Don't get so close, stupid!
Ah!
W-WOULD IT BE BAD IF YOU WON'T HIT ME?
THAT'S BECAUSE THE PREY THEY CAUGHT DURING A HUNT WERE STILL WARM.
WHAT IF.. I SAID IT WOULD BE BAD?
HONEST.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? SHE DIDN'T REFUSE TO HIT ME

"WHY DO VAMPIRES DRINK BLOOD FROM THE NAPE?"
THEN, WHAT IF IT WAS LIKE THIS?
HERE
BECAUSE THE WOMAN FEELS GOOD WHEN BLOOD IS DRANK FROM HER NAPE
THAT'S WHY WOMEN WHOSE BLOOD HAS BEEN SUCKED BY A VAMPIRE,
WILL FALL ASLEEP PEACE-FULLY ON THE VAMPIRE'S CHEST...
YOU...
ARE WARM.
IT'S LONELY WHEN YOU'RE BY YOUR-SELF.
I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ALONE, TOO... NOW AND FOR-EVER.
BUT I WANTED TO STAY WITH YOU FOR A BIT LONGER...
SLEEP, UNTIL YOUR FAMILY RETURNS
Wait a moment.

MY PARENTS WILL BE BACK SOON.
WAIT! IT'S NOT THE SAME.
SO, DON'T SAY YOU'RE ALWAYS ALONE.
THEN, HOW ABOUT IF YOU COME OVER WHEN I'M ALONE AGAIN?
...THAT WAS THE OTHER HALF OF MY GOAL.
DID YOU COME TO COMFORT ME?
AND YOU'RE LONELY BECAUSE NO ONE RETURNS TO YOUR HOUSE.
Huh?
ANYWAY, ISN'T TODAY THE FIRST TIME WE MET?
MAYBE I WASN'T REALLY AFFECTED BECAUSE I WAS JUST HUNGRY.
GIVING SUGGESTIONS TO DISTRACT ME FROM MY LONELINESS, COULD IT BE THAT IT DOESN'T AFFECT YOU?
AH...

OK?
LET'S NOT BE LONELY
OR HUNGRY...?
AH! I thought so.
DID I SAY SOMETHING STRANGE AGAIN?
NOT REALLY
AN EMPTY STOMACH WILL JUST BECOME MORE AND MORE PAINFUL
TO HELP YOU WITH THAT, I'LL COMFORT YOU TODAY!
MAKE SURE YOU COME THROUGH THE FRONT ENTRANCE NEXT TIME, THOUGH
OKAY...
I'M SORRY I'M NOT A COOL VAMPIRE,
BUT I DON'T FEEL

THE ROOM WAS PITCH BLACK, WHICH GAVE ME A FRIGHT.
LONELY MORE-
MIKI?
I'VE BROUGHT BACK SOME SOUVENIRS.
IT'D TASTE BETTER IF I TOOK MY TIME.
...THAT WAS QUICK.
END